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# May 2025 THE DIARY OF ST MARY'S DROYLSDEN



***A welcoming all-age community growing  
and sharing God's love.***

**Rector**

**Reverend Cath Hewison      0161 370 1569**

**Associate Minister**

**Reverend Nancy Alexander      0161 371 9667**

**Church Wardens**

**Pat Catterall      0161 370 0039**

Beth Cutler

0161 376 9407

*Trust in him at all times, O people;  
pour out your souls before him;  
God is a refuge for us.*

*Psalm 62: 8*

## May Services 2025



**4<sup>th</sup> May - 10.30am – Holy Communion**

**Acts 9: 1-6 and John 21: 1-19**

**11<sup>th</sup> May 10.30am – Holy Communion**

**Acts 9: 36-43 and John 10: 22-30**

**18<sup>th</sup> May - 10.30am – Holy Communion**

**Acts 11: 1-18 and John 1: 35**

**25<sup>th</sup> May – 10.30am – Morning Worship**

**Acts 16: 9-15 and John 14: 23-29**

**26<sup>th</sup> May– 12noon Fellowship Lunch and Holy Communion**

**29<sup>th</sup> May – 7.00pm – Ascension Day Holy Communion**

**Please join us for Tea and  
coffee in the Church Room  
after the service**

## **Living Easter**

Long after most of us have finished our last Easter eggs, and the shelves in the supermarkets are stocked with the next season's goods, the Church continues to celebrate Easter for another seven weeks.

This extended time gives us plenty of opportunity to explore how the resurrection of Jesus transforms our lives in every way. It is nothing short of astounding to consider that Jesus, by his death and resurrection has destroyed the power that sin holds over us, so that we can learn to walk in a new way of love, death is conquered, so that we have the promise of eternal life in God's presence, and he is with us always, even now, through the Holy Spirit, to teach, guide, and strengthen us. This is truly astounding and utterly life-transforming! Life, as the world knows it, is absolutely turned upside down!

Learning to live into the truth of Easter is in fact a whole-life journey. There is always more to learn, and many more ways we can be changed as we see its impact on our lives and relationships, our hopes and dreams, and the world around us – both far and near.

Jesus is Risen! Let's allow this truth to settle into our hearts, transform our lives, and give us new hope for ourselves and our world.

*Rev Cath*



## Prayer Tree

You may have noticed that a new prayer tree is now located at the back of the church, next to the Book of Remembrance. There are pens and cards to write your prayers and prayer requests on. Please be assured every card left is prayed over with faith, courage and strength that each one is heard no matter how small.



## Sunday School

Sunday School activities are now available during term time, in the Church Room every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday for children in year one and above.

## Tea and Toast Drop In

Tea and Toast Drop In. Every Wednesday morning from 9am during term-time. Everyone is welcome, come along for a chat and a chance to

## Fellowship and Holy Communion



The fellowship lunch and Holy Communion Service for April will be at 12noon on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

May's service will be Monday 26<sup>th</sup> (Bank Holiday Monday) at 12noon, everyone is very welcome. If you know of anyone who would like to come to this service, please let them know.

## Bible Study Groups

Bible study groups meet in the Emmaus Room twice a month on Tuesday evening or Thursday afternoon to which everyone is welcome.



These are informal groups and the studies usually include a video to watch then questions for discussion followed by a brew and a biscuit or slice of cake.

If anyone is interested in joining one of the groups, or would like more information, please have a chat with Charlotte or Stephanie (Tuesday group) or Christine, Pat or Jim (Thursday group).

The Thursday group continues to look at different books in the Bible and have recently looked at Song of Songs (or Song of Solomon). This is a book of love poems purportedly written by King Solomon (he of the 700 wives and 400 concubines!).

The book is written like a play with Beloved and lover (husband and wife in one version we looked at) and their friends as the characters. Some of the verses were challenging, it's hard to imagine "your temples are like two halves of a pomegranate" or "your nose is like the tower of Lebanon looking toward Damascus" being taken as compliments these days!



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It all led to much debate and a little laughter, it was challenging – but that's the idea – and some verses are apparently used at weddings. One of the questions was where else would you use readings from this book? We could only think perhaps of the funeral of a spouse so if anyone reads it and can think of any other appropriate place to read some of these verses we'd be delighted if you'd let us know.

It's Paul's letter to the Galatians next – if you're interested, please don't hesitate to come along, you will be made more than welcome.

Christine



Messy Easter during the school Easter holidays was really well attended with lots of new faces as well as the usual children who brought along their adults with them.

Everyone enjoyed making and decorating eggs with chicks popping out, tombs made from Swiss roll, biscuits and mini eggs, sheep, crosses and a collage of crosses on a hill with the brightness of the promise of Christ's resurrection.

There was a short film about the events of Holy Week (the characters were Lego people) and everyone joined in a very lively song before a closing prayer and hot dogs and cake.



## Words to Make You Think



'May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope'

Recently, I came across this quote by Emily Bronte. It is thought that Emily Bronte's quote was about the changing season and the way nature is reborn in May. This got me thinking about what happens in May. It was my mum's favourite month. The joy of things to come. Days are getting longer. More sunshine. Holidays. Flowers blooming. The ascension of Jesus into heaven which I share with you.

In John 14 there was an **EXPECTATION** from Jesus said when He spoke to his disciples: 'If you love me, you will do as I command. <sup>16</sup> Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help<sup>[b]</sup> you and always be with you. <sup>17</sup> The Spirit will show you what is true. The people of this world cannot accept the Spirit, because they don't see or know him. But you know the Spirit, who is with you and will keep on living in you.'



Jesus goes on to say His **WISHES** 'If anyone loves me, they will obey me. Then my Father will love them, and we will come to them and live in them. <sup>24</sup>But anyone who doesn't love me, won't obey me. What they have heard me say doesn't really come from me, but from the Father who sent me.

Finally, He speaks of **HOPE** ' <sup>26</sup> But the Holy Spirit will come and help you, because the Father will send the Spirit to take my place. The Spirit will teach you everything and will remind you of what I said while I was with you. <sup>27</sup>I give you peace, the kind of peace only I can give. It isn't like the peace this world can give. So don't be worried or afraid.'



Kathryn



## The Children's Society Boxes

Just to remind everyone with a Children's Society box, they are due in during May.

You can bring them to the Coffee Morning on 3<sup>rd</sup> May or to church any Sunday morning. If it's a struggle to get to church, please let me know and I will pick your box up.

If anyone would like to take a box, please let me know.

Rosemary



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## VE Day Celebrations

3rd May 2025

Everyone is very welcome to come along and look at the display to remember men from our parish who gave their lives during World War II.

There will be the usual coffee morning during the morning and the church will remain open until 2.30pm with light refreshments and crafts for children to do.

We also hope to have an art installation of poppies similar to the one that was in The Tower of London to mark the end of WWI.

Please spread the word and hopefully we will get lots of visitors to our lovely church.

If you are researching one of the men on the memorial plaques, please bring your research to church by 27<sup>th</sup> April.



**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

**7.00pm – Outside St Mary's School**

**A Tour of St Mary's CE Primary School**

**Please note change of time and location.**

Our May meeting will be a tour of St Mary's Primary School, kindly lead by Mrs Quinn the year 6 teacher and assistant headteacher.

**Everyone is very welcome to come along and find out what our church school is like.**

Before the AGM in April, Rev Cath lead us in a lovely service of Holy Communion at which we welcomed Elaine Burrows and Julie Farrow as new members.

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The meeting in June is the summer celebration, please listen out in church for more information.

**Lord, Bless My Friends**

Lord, you called your disciples friends after you had risen, when you cooked breakfast for them at the lakeside,

How I would wish for my friends to know your friendship. to share your joy, your life!

Bless all my friends, Lord,

All those I treasure. Be with them!

For the greatest gift I could give them is the gift of knowing you

Amen

Ann Holland



Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025  
2pm – 4pm

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# Crafts, Bible Stories and Simple Worship followed by refreshments

All Primary School age children  
welcome with their parents or  
carers



We were set up over 75 years ago to support children after World War Two. We are prepared to protect children during a crisis. Our Children's Emergency Fund means we can help whenever and wherever needed, even when crises don't make the news.

We are there before, during and after emergencies, helping communities to recover quickly and build resilience to future emergencies.

Our amazing supporters help to keep this vital fund topped up and ready for action at any time. Donate now to support our life-saving work

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The proceeds from the coffee morning will go directly to our Children's Emergency Fund to protect children and families caught up in crises with whatever they need, be that life-saving therapeutic food, water and sanitation, temporary schools and clinics, and so much more.

After almost 14 years since the beginning of the crisis in Syria, children and their families are still struggling to cope. Children face continued violence, multiple displacements and the impact of the ongoing economic crisis.

Children and families in Syria need food, water, sanitation and hygiene facilities. There is still a significant shortage of adequate shelter.

*Lord Jesus, bringer of light to children and young people, we pray for young people who are in dark situations. Shine your light on those who feel hopeless and afraid that they may have a brighter future. Hear our prayer. Amen*

St Mary's Church, Droylsden

# Coffee Morning

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

9.30am – 11.00am

In the Church Room

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All Welcome

Proceeds to The Children's Society



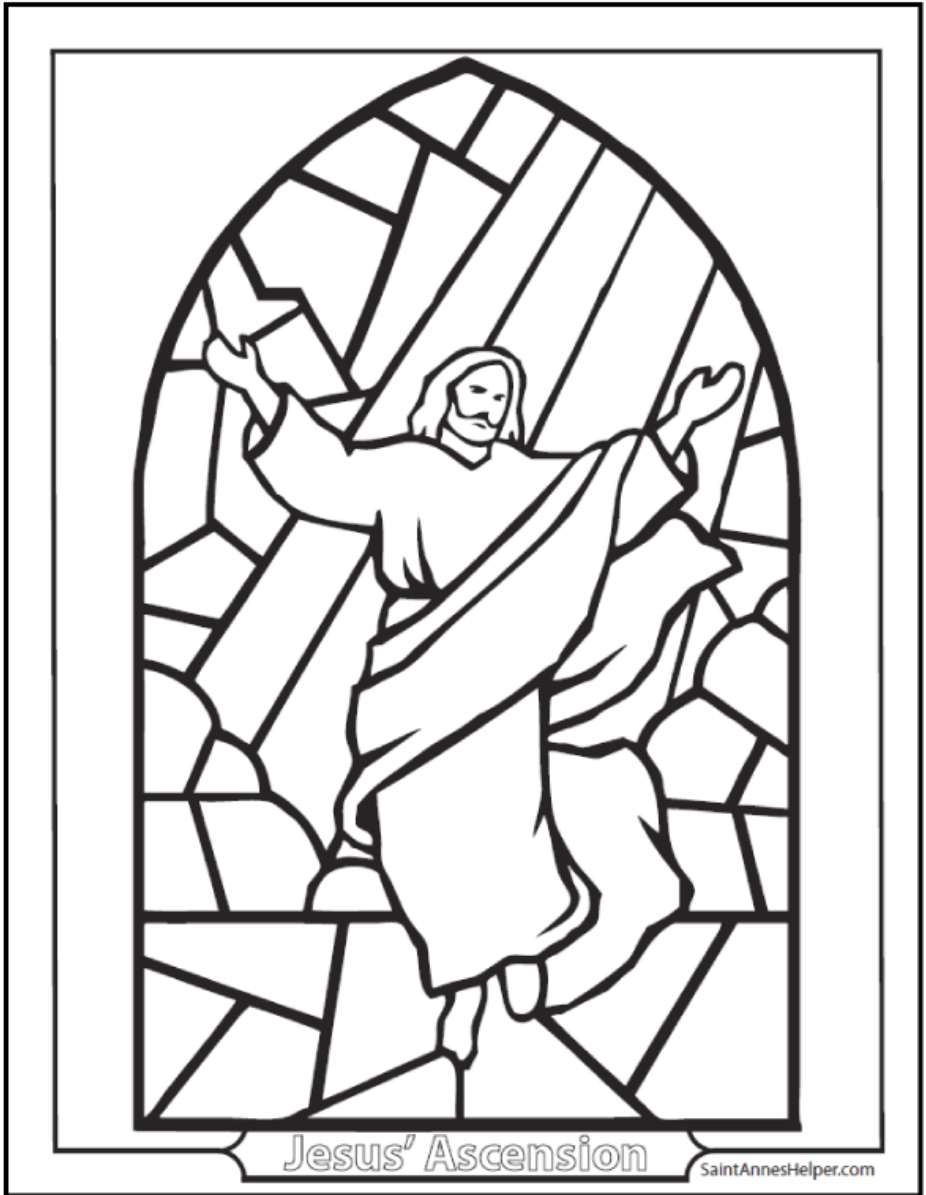
## An Easter Quiz

### The Answers

1. Roast Lamb
2. J.S. Fry & Son (Fry's)
3. Beans
4. Simnel
5. 200million
6. New life and rebirth
7. 11 (representing 12 disciples, minus Judas Iscariot)

8. False
9. Red
10. Raisins
11. 1873
12. Sunday
13. Bonnet
14. Cadbury Crème Egg
15. Pancakes
16. Beatrix Potter
17. Bambi
18. Pocket Watch
19. Flopsy, Mopsy and Cotton-Tail
20. Jessica

**A Picture to colour**



Read Acts 1: 9-11



Deadline for the diary is always the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of the month unless there are school holidays when articles are required as soon as possible please.

***Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this diary, without YOU it wouldn't be possible. If you would like to contribute to future publications, please contact me by email:***

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***Telephone 0161 371 8825***

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Who we are:

St Mary's Church Website is

**[www.stmarydroylsden.co.uk](http://www.stmarydroylsden.co.uk)**

Parochial Church Council:

Pat Catterall and Beth Cutler (Wardens), Charlotte Burrows, Joyce Cox, Paul Davies (Secretary), Kathryn Hampson, Ann Holland, Jim Smith, Barbara Walton.

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Susan Marsh, Stephanie Rigg, Christine Withers

Sides People

Maureen Allison, Elaine Burrows, Carole Clayton, Joyce Cox, Julie Farrow, Gaynor Kirby.

Treasurer: Kathryn Hampson, Electoral Roll: Lindsay Artingstall

Church Flowers and Bookstall - Details from Church

Mothers Union - Details from Church

St Mary's Church of England Nursery and Primary School

Head Teacher, Mr C Quinn - 370 3948

250th Manchester Scout Group

Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers - 07973739041

5th Droylsden Brownie Guides - 339 0016

Rainbow Pack - 301 4251

St John's Band - 285 3583